

Public Health Office,
32, South Street,
BRIDPORT.

October, 1947.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
TO THE BRIDPORT BOROUGH COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR
1946, INCLUDING STATISTICS FOR THE PERIOD
1938 - 1946.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health	Adam Armit, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor	Robert Armstrong, M.Inst., M. & Cy.E., A.R.S.I.
Veterinary Surgeon(Part-time)	K.I. Marshall, M.R.C.V.S.
Clerk to the Medical Officer	Miss E. Hansford.

STATISTICS OF THE AREA .

Area in acres ...	686.5.
Registrar General's estimate of population ...	6,263.
No. of inhabited houses(according to the Rate Books ... at end of 1946) ...	1,750.
Rateable Value ...	£44,318.
Sum represented by a penny rate ...	£ 178.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
All Births	51	56	
Legitimate	49	52	Birth Rate per 1,000
Illegitimate	2	4	resident population - 17.08.
Total Births... 107.			

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
All Still Births	1	2	
Legitimate	1	2	Still Birth Rate per 1,000
Illegitimate	-	-	resident population - 0.48.
Total Still Births ... 3			

Deaths of Infants under One Year of Age.

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
Total	$\frac{2}{2}$	$\frac{1}{1}$	
Legitimate	2	1	Death Rate all Infants per
Illegitimate	-	-	1,000 notified Births ...28.04

Deaths from Puerperal Causes ... Nil.
Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births ..Nil.

Deaths at all ages and from all causes.

	<u>M.</u>	<u>F.</u>	
Total Deaths ... 81.	$\frac{40}{41}$	$\frac{41}{41}$	Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population..12.93.

CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946.
1. Typhoid & Paratyphoid.....	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
2. Cerebro-Spinal Fever.....	-	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5. Diphtheria.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.....	3	3	4	5	3	5	1	1	1
7. Other forms Tuberculosis.....	-	-	1	1	1	2	1	-	-
8. Syphilitic Diseases.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
9. Influenza.....	-	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-
10. Measles.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
11. Acute Poliomyelitis & Polio-Encephalitis.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
12. Acute Inf. Encephalitis.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
13. Cancer of Buc. Cav. & Oesoph(M) Uterus(F).....	-	-	3	-	1	-	-	-	1
14. Cancer of Stomach & Duodenum.....	-	2	4	1	2	4	9	1	1
15. Cancer of Breast.....	-	2	2	5	2	1	7	1	4
16. Cancer of all other sites.....	10	9	5	5	4	12	-	5	-
17. Diabetes.....	-	2	1	-	4	-	-	-	4
18. Intracranial Vascular Lesions.....	2	18	10	18	8	9	10	4	-
19. Heart Disease.....	24	26	24	15	27	29	30	35	15
20. Other Diseases of Circulatory System.....	5	-	5	7	3	3	5	1	2
21. Bronchitis.....	5	5	1	-	4	6	5	1	2
22. Pneumonia.....	7	2	12	2	4	2	3	2	-
23. Other Respiratory Diseases.....	-	-	2	2	-	4	1	-	2
24. Ulcer of Stomach & Duodenum.....	-	1	2	-	2	1	1	-	-
25. Diarrhoea (under 2 years).....	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
26. Appendicitis.....	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
27. Other Digestive Diseases.....	2	2	1	3	3	4	2	1	1
28. Nephritis.....	1	-	1	2	2	2	-	1	-
29. Puer eral & Post Abortive Sepsis.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
30. Other Maternal Causes.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
31. Premature Birth.....	3	-	1	3	-	3	1	1	1
32. Con. Mal. Birth Injury. Infant Dis.....	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-
33. Suicide.....	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
34. Road Traffic Accidents.....	-	2	1	-	1	1	2	1	-
35. Other Violent Causes.....	4	3	-	1	6	3	2	3	1
36. All other causes.....	15	16	19	11	12	12	9	11	5
TOTALS....	87	94	108	81	94	104	93	83	40 41.

OTHER VITAL STATISTICS 1938 - 1946.

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946
Population	5732	5908	5903	6121	6115	5877	5939	6003	6263
Pateable Value.....	£41366	£43584	£43833	£43959	£43954	£43597	£43882	£43927	£44318
Estimated Produce of Penny Rate.....	£162	£164	£172	£172	£178	£175	£175	£176	£178
BIRTHS:-									
Live Births	67	79	85	85	101	81	101	86	107
Legitimate.....	66	74	84	82	95	74	93	75	101
Illegitimate.....	1	2	1	3	6	7	8	11	6
Still Births.....	4	2	3	3	2	3	1	1	3
Live Birth Rate.....	11.7	13.4	14.4	13.9	16.5	13.8	17	14.3	17.1
Live Birth Rate(England & Wales)....	15.6	15	14.6	14.2	15.8	16.5	17.6	16.1	19.1
DEATHS:-									
Total Deaths.....	87	94	108	81	94	104	93	83	81
Death Rate	11.8	12.4	14.8	13.1	15.4	17.7	15.7	13.8	12.9
Death Rate(England & Wales).....	11.6	12.1	14.3	12.9	11.6	12.1	11.6	11.4	11.5
INFANT MORTALITY:-									
Deaths under 1 year	7	3	4	4	2	4	4	2	3
Infantile Death Rate.....	104.5	37.5	46.5	43.5	19.8	49.4	39.6	23.3	28.04
Infantile Death Rate(England & Wales) 53		50	55	59	49	49	46	46	43
MATERNAL MORTALITY:-									
Maternal Deaths.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-
Maternal Mortality Rate.....	-	-	-	10.54	9.9	11.9	-	-	-
Maternal Mortality Rate.(England & Wales)...	2.97	2.82	2.16	2.23	2.01	2.29	1.93	1.79	1.43.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.WATER SUPPLIES.

All the area is supplied by the Bridport Water Works Company, who are empowered by their Act of Parliament of 1872, to take from their springs at Litton Cheney a maximum of 320,000 gallons per day, but at times these springs do not yield this amount. Because of this drop in yield, and the height of the Bothenhampton reservoirs, 196 feet O.D., during the Summer months shutting off at nights becomes necessary to enable the reservoirs to fill, and because of the fact that the Borough varies between 30 feet and 150 feet O.D., the static head available in some parts is very small, and it is clear that the supply is inadequate both as to pressure and quantity.

A chlorinating plant is installed at Litton Cheney, for continuous chlorination.

Regular samples have been taken and each has proved satisfactory.

Approximately 145 houses in the Borough take their water from outside taps.

Messrs. Lemon and Blizzard, Chartered Civil Engineers and Surveyors, were appointed by the Council to advise on the water supplies to the Borough, and this firm issued a report in March, 1946, dealing with the supply to Bridport Borough and the adjoining districts. A Provisional Joint Water Committee was set up, comprising of representatives from Bridport Borough, Bridport Rural District, and Beaminster Rural District, to discuss plans for a comprehensive supply to West Dorset, based on Messrs. Lemon & Blizzard's Report. The County Council have been kept fully informed of these plans.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The whole area is on the Water Carriage System, the crude sewage being run out to sea through an outfall on the East Beach. The latter is in an unsatisfactory condition because of sewage pollution and the Council are being advised by a firm of Consultant Engineers on measures for getting rid of the sewage without causing a Nuisance.

Approximately 3,255 feet of new 4" and 6" drains, and 9" sewer were laid for the new housing estate, 752 feet of new 4" drains for conversion into new premises and 272 feet of new 4" drains for alteration to old premises.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

2,050 loads of refuse, representing 2,382 tons, were collected from approximately 2,000 dust bins. One 30 cwt. motor lorry with a driver and 2 men is employed continually and a 30 cwt. motor lorry is hired 2 mornings per week in the collection of household and trade refuse. No charge is made for the latter. 32 tons, 6½ cwt. of tins were salvaged and baled. The rest of the refuse is burned in a Destructor where two men are continually employed and a third works part-time. As the Destructor is 42 years old, the Council may have to consider replacing it in the very near future. Street cleansing is carried out by four road sweepers with street orderly hand carts. 4.31 miles are swept daily, 1.55 miles three times weekly, 2.32 twice weekly, and 1.18 once weekly.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

No. of Inspections for all purposes	117	
No. of Informal Notices.....	14	No. complied with....14
No. of Statutory Notices.....	1	No. complied with.... 1
Inspection of Shops.....	15	
Inspection of Food Shops.....	38	
Inspection of Bakehouses.....	4	
Inspection of Houses.....	24	
Inspections - Miscellaneous.....	24	
Inspection of Drains.....	4	
Disinfection of houses after Inf. Dis.	8	

Eradication of Vermin.

Two premises were dealt with during the year.

Petroleum, Spirit and Carbide.

No. of Inspections 5. No. of Notices served..... Nil.

Camping Sites.

The only Camping Site in the area is owned by the Council at West Bay. There is a Camp Supervisor, and the whole Camp is run very satisfactorily. During the year there were accommodated in the camp field 2,278 persons, 649 cars, 648 tents, 228 caravans and 87 motor cycles.

Rodent Control.

A full-time Rodent Officer was employed, except during the Summer months. Using the block system as laid down by the Ministry of Food, he estimated that approximately 1,800 rats were destroyed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.Milk SupplyCowshed and Fairies.

No. of persons on Register at end of 1946.....	24
No. of Dairy Farms and other Dairy Premises on Register	
at end of 1946.....	11
No. of Dairy Farms inspected during the year.....	4
No. of Inspections.....	19
No. of Notices served.....	Nil
No. of Milk Shops inspected.....	3
No. of Inspections.....	12
No. of Notices served.....10.	No. complied with..... 10

Four milk samples were taken for analyses. Three passed the Methylene Blue Test.

There is one pasteurising plant registered in the area.

The County Council took 25 samples for analyses, all except three passed the Phosphatase Test.

Ice Cream.

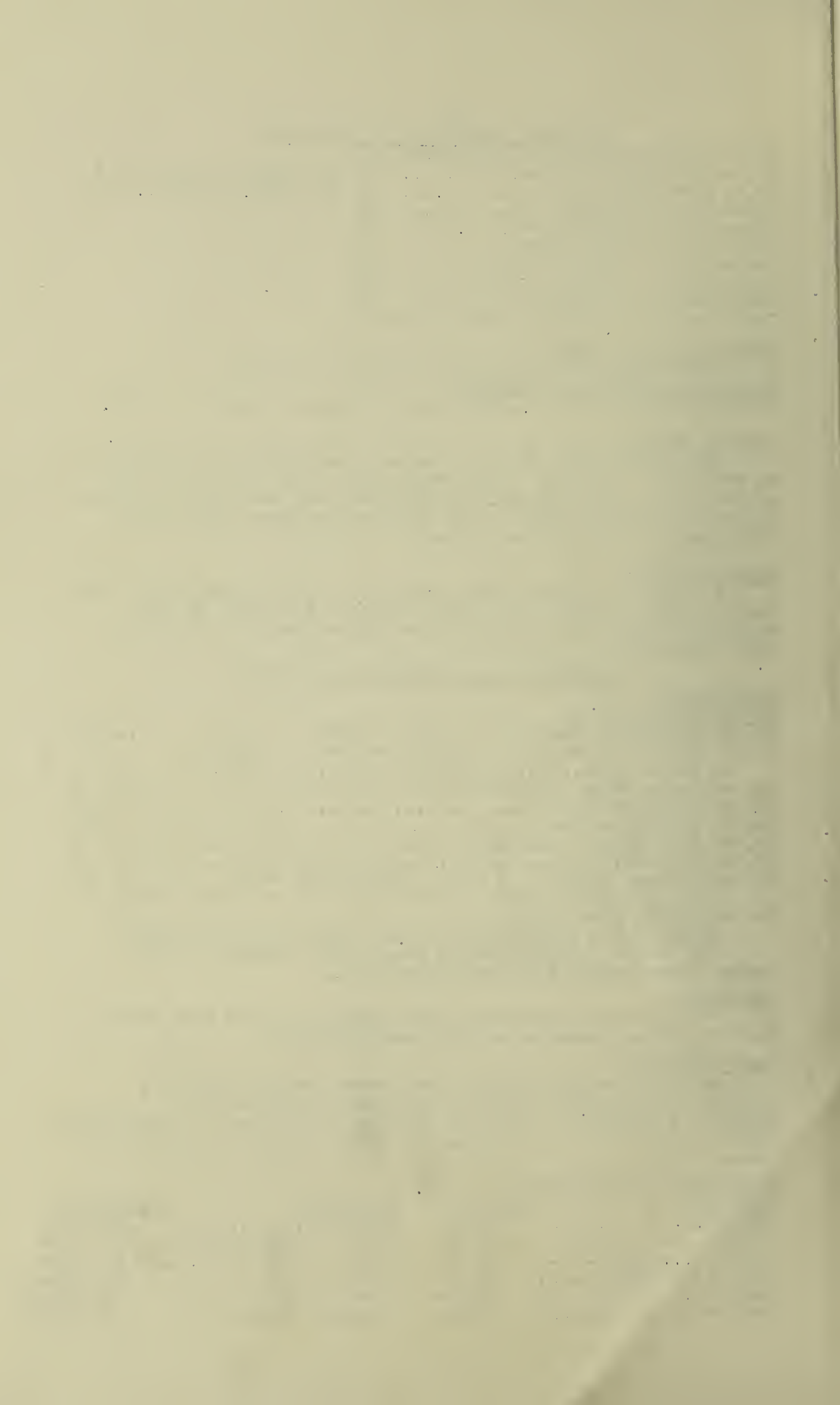
Twelve samples were taken for analyses, three were satisfactory, three passable and six unsatisfactory.

Meat Inspection.

All the slaughtering for West Dorset takes place at a Slaughter House just outside the Borough. A Veterinary Surgeon, appointed by the four districts concerned, is responsible for the inspection of carcasses on every day that slaughtering takes place.

Condemnation of Foodstuffs.

Foodstuff	Quantity	Foodstuff	Quantity
Meat.....	265 lbs.	Meat.....	272 tins.
Prunes.....	550 lbs.	Fruit & Vegetables...	292 tins
Bacon.....	55 lbs.	Milk.....	333 tins
Butter and Marg.	38 lbs.	Fish.....	304 tins
Sweets.....	22 lbs.	Fish.....	17 stones
Various.....	22 lbs.	Shredded Wheat.....	21 pkts.



HOUSING.

<u>Inspection of Dwelling Houses.</u>	
No. inspected for housing defects.....	30
No. of Inspections.....	45
<u>Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notice.</u>	
No. rendered fit in consequence of information action by the Local Authority	24
<u>Action under Statutory Powers.</u>	
<u>Housing Act, 1936. Sections 9, 10, 16.</u>	
No. of houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs.....	1
No. which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notice:- By owners.....	1
<u>Housing Act, 1936. Sections 11 and 13.</u>	
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
No. of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	Nil
<u>Housing Act, 1936. Section 12.</u>	
No. of Closing Orders	Nil
<u>Public Health Acts.</u>	
No. of dwelling houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	4
No. of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notice :-	
By owners.....	4
<u>Re-Housing.</u>	
No. of houses re-constructed into Flats.....	8
No. of families re-housed.....	13
No. of persons re-housed.....	60
<u>No. of new houses completed :-</u>	
a) By the Local Authority	14
b) By other bodies.....	2
No. of families in new houses.....	16
No. of persons in new houses.....	67
No. of new houses in course of construction.....	26
No. of new houses proposed	200-300
Building sites acquired.....	Nil
No. of houses owned by the Local Authority	274
Approximate no. of working class houses in the District.	1516.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

During the year periodic visits were paid to factories. No formal notices were issued as defects were of a minor nature and remedied after verbal notice.

<u>The number of visits made were, as follows :-</u>	
Factories with mechanical power.....	5
Factories without mechanical power	15
Other premises under the Act	3

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1946.

DISEASE	Total Cases at all ages.	Under 1 Year.	65 Total Cases Deaths in Over 45-65 & Deaths. removed to Hosp. of per- sons belong- ing to Dist.										
			1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	Hosp. in District.
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	2	4
Scarlet Fever	5	-	-	-	1	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	5
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	2	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	-	-	-	-
Non-Pulmonary T.B.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Measles	5	-	2	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTALS...	25	1	3	-	3	1	4	3	1	6	1	2	12

From the Schools the following cases of Infectious Diseases were reported :-
 Impetigo 4, Scabies or Suspected Scabies 5, Vermin 11, Whooping Cough 4,
 Chickenpox 7.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1938 -- 1946.

DISEASE	1938		1939		1940		1941		1942		1943		1944		1945.		1946	
	Cases.	Dths.	Cases.	Dths.	Cases.	Dths.	Cases.	Dths.	Cases.	Dths.	Cases.	Dths.	Cases.	Dths.	Cases.	Dths.	Cases.	Dths.
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diphtheria	1	-	2	-	16	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	3	-	3	-	1	-	12	-	3	-	6	-	3	-	3	-	6	-
Scarlet Fever	3	-	4	-	6	-	11	-	9	-	10	-	5	-	3	-	5	-
Enteric Fever (inc. Typhoid).	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	7	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	5	2	-	-	2	∞
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	7	7	6	2	3	-	4	2	4	4	1	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	7	3	8	3	-	-	7	5	8	3	2	5	6	1	5	1	4	-
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	2	-	1	1	-	-	5	1	2	1	4	2	2	1	1	-	1	1
Measles	-	-	-	-	129	-	91	-	15	-	17	-	12	-	185	-	5	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	1	-	74	-	6	-	2	-	17	-	23	-	1	-
TOTALS...	24	10	25	6	163	2	210	9	52	8	43	7	52	4	222	1	25	1

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New cases notified during 1946.				Deaths during 1946.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-5	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
5-15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & Over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTALS .4	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1

Particulars of Deaths. :-

Non-Pulmonary. Age 70. Female, Housewife. Duration of Disease --
20 years.
Non-Pulmonary. Age 3 months, Male. (Tuberculous Meningitis).

New Cases and Mortality 1938-1946.

	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1938	4	3	-	2	2	1	-	-
1939	5	3	-	1	2	1	-	-
1940	4	3	1	1	3	1	-	1
1941	2	3	1	4	2	3	-	1
1942	7	3	1	1	1	2	-	1
1943	-	2	2	2	2	3	1	1
1944	6	2	2	-	-	1	1	-
1945	4	1	-	1	1	-	-	-
1946	4	-	1	-	-	-	1	1

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F
Total Cases on Register at end of 1945	16	5	4	6
New Cases notified during 1946	4	-	1	-
Cases from other areas now living in the District	-	1	-	-
Deaths during 1946	-	-	1	1
Removals from District into other areas	2	1	-	-
Total on Register at end of 1946.....	18	5	4	5

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION, 1946.

On 1st April, 1946, the Dorset County Council assumed responsibility for securing the immunisation of children under 5 years of age. The responsibility for immunising the School Children still rests with Bridport Borough.

Number of Children who had completed a full course of Immunisation at any time up to 31st December, 1946.

Age Year Born	Under 1 1946	1 1945	2 1944	3 1943	4 1942.	5 to 9 1937 - 1941	10 to 14 1932 - 1936.	Total under 15.
Number Immunised	3	95	98	65	92	400	329	1082.
Registrar General's Estimated Mid- Year Population 1946.			480				744	1227.

Percentage immunised - Pre-School Children - 74.
Percentage immunised - School Children - 98.

PORT HEALTH

There was no shipping entered the Port during the year. The water supply is sufficient and wholesome. The Port area was brought into the block system of control by the Rodent Officer.

